

Community Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
For the Cancer Cluster Investigation
November 10, 2010, 7:00pm-8:30pm
Frederick County Health Department
Auditorium (entrance "C")
350 Montevue Lane
Frederick, MD 21702

Agenda

I. Introductions

- a. All previous members present
 - i. Previous members: Lori Goldman, Gary Pauly, Cliff Harbaugh (sitting in for wife Karen), Julie Sawitzke, Deb Blank, Rissah Watkins, John Bee (on phone), Dr. Barbara Brookmyer (on phone).
 - ii. Two new members,
 - iii. Bob Robertson lived nearby for 50 years, family worked at Ft. Detrick, interested in where we go from here.
 - iv. Jen Hahn lives locally, two-time cancer survivor interested in
 - v. Karen Harbaugh (husband came last week), owns local bakery, used to work at Ft. Detrick

II. Review of Minutes – okay, just list member names, no details

III. Purpose of the TAC

- a. Needing community assistance to determine what questions should be examined – geographic region, time period, types of cancers.
- b. Then bring in other experts

Julie – need to confirm whether cancer cluster is true first, separate issue what exposures were present (EPA)

Jen – where is our water going? Are there other places downstream that may indicate the presence of contaminants?

John - We do know there's a landfill, spraying of agent orange, 3 incinerators, one on Rosemont. Restrict to ¼ mile from landfill on Area B, 1960-1990.

IV. Review of Relevant Geographic/Geologic Information

- a. Relevant to exposures
 - i. Water
 - ii. Air
- b. Population Information

V. What is the Hypothesis or Question to be answered?

- a. Geographic area (Area A and Area B)
 - i. ¼ mile from Area B you'd include the groundwater, burn pits
 - ii. Clover Hill – started in 1960s, census defined population
 - 1. Used to be farmland - pesticides
- b. Time period
 - i. Active work at Ft. Detrick 1943-1967
 - ii. "Leaks" from then to present
- c. Types of cancer

Ask Hopkins, U of MD, FMH for rates of cancers from Frederick County

The hypothesis is that there is an increased rate of cancers (gather data on all, possibly narrow down later based on confirmed exposures) within a ¼ mile radius around Ft. Detrick (Area A and B).

Julie – need to ask for all data from people, and you'll get all the time period and all cancers – may not need to narrow the time period or cancer type.

Maps – check for county/city street maps - historical

Jen – dad was a tax assessor, may be able to come to next meeting

Bob – what about funding for a big study?

****Send email with everyone's address**

VI. Next Steps

- a. Next Meeting: Dec. 1, 2010
- b. Homework to be completed before next meeting